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CONTACT:

Karen Larimore Wilkinson, PIO
Director of Public Information and Communications
City of Salisbury, 217 S. Main Street
Salisbury, North Carolina 28144
Work Phone: 704-638-2113 Cell: 704-213-1050
Information: <http://www.salisburync.gov>
Work Email Contact: kwilk@salisburync.gov

City of Salisbury to Create Historic Preservation Master Plan

Citizen Input and Participation to Play Key Role in Historic Master Plan Development

Salisbury, NC_November 18, 2010 – The City of Salisbury has embarked upon the development of a Historic Preservation Master Plan. The strategic plan will include those individuals and organizations currently providing historic preservation efforts throughout the community. Positioned as a long-term vision for Historic Salisbury, the master plan should ultimately provide local preservation partners with a common vision to guide historic programming and future decision-making.

Mayor Susan Kluttz offers that various elements of the historic preservation master plan will develop and continue to emerge over time. The initial plan will likely address ongoing inventory, community outreach, neighborhood livability, new practices in preservation, regulatory practices, and organization. Kluttz offers, "Input provided by our citizens is vitally important and will play a key role in the development of this plan. I sincerely encourage our residents to attend the public kick-off session for Salisbury's Historic Preservation Master Plan on Tuesday, November 30 at 6 pm. The informative meeting will be held in the Messinger Room, second floor of the Rowan Museum at 202 North Main Street. Public participation is both welcome and appreciated."

The agenda for the public session will commence with introductions, followed by an overview of benefits associated with the practice of historic preservation. Session dialogue will offer an outline of existing preservation efforts, responsibilities and outreach by individual organization, and a synopsis of current resources, by national and local districts. Accessible tools, including design guidelines, tax credits, preservation grants, and zoning and housing guidelines will also be discussed. Lastly, the scope of the master plan will be provided with opportunity for public input and discussion of key preservation issues that exist within the community. The meeting is slated to conclude by 7:30 pm.

Janet Gapen, Senior Planner with Salisbury's Community Planning Services Department, offers that the City has secured federal grant funding to implement the plan. The urban planning firm of Arnett Muldrow & Associates has been hired to facilitate the process. Gapen provides, "The master plan process will ensure opportunity for a high level of community input. Current plans include stakeholder interviews and multiple public meetings. In addition, ample online opportunities for input, feedback, and participation will be provided to our citizens." Arnett Muldrow will begin conducting interviews with local historic preservation leaders on Monday, November 29.

For more information or questions regarding Salisbury's Historic Preservation Master Plan process, please contact Janet Gapen at 704-638-5230 or by email at jgape@salisburync.org. Additional inquiries may be submitted to Aaron Arnett of Arnett Muldrow & Associates by calling 864-233-0950. Arnett may be reached via email at aaron@arnettmuldrow.com.

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